

Aradi file

Memo

14 May 1946

SUBJECT: Resume of conversation with Mr. Rudolf Molden  
and Mr. Fritz Molden on 10 May

TO : Chief, SI Austria

1. Mr. Rudolf Molden is taking the necessary steps to publish a daily newspaper instead of his weekly paper. The greatest problem, according to his own statement, is to get the paper printed because all printers have too much work and cannot accept new assignments. Mr. Molden has two alternatives: either he prints the new daily paper at the same place where the "Wiener Kurier" is printed, or he can go to the Communist Party's printer which has the necessary equipment.

2. Mr. Molden stated that he would like very much to make an agreement with ISB to print his new daily at the same plant where the "Wiener Kurier" is printed, but this depends entirely on the chief of ISB. Mr. Denby of State Department, Vienna, is giving some support for this, but he would appreciate support from us also. Otherwise he must go to the Communist plant where he has already received very favorable offers.

3. Both Mr. Rudolf and Fritz Molden, without telling the name of the person, mentioned a man who was a member of the resistance and whose apartment in Vienna was requisitioned for the use of an American general. The man obtained another apartment, though smaller. Now this apartment has been requisitioned, so that he is out on the street. They feel (the Moldens) that this is an injustice. The man in question, together with Fritz Molden, went to the American officer in charge in order to straighten out the matter. They received a very discouraging reply, with almost no hope of changing the officer's opinion. The Moldens asked whether it would be possible to help them in this matter.

4. The undersigned is only reporting on these matters, without any suggestions.

5. Also present at the same conversation were a certain Dr. Treu, a former Austrian emigre who worked in Switzerland and now is employed in the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (undersigned gave a report on Treu to X-2

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some months ago), and Mr. Toncic, an Austrian citizen of Croat origin, landowner in Salzburg. The entire discussion with the four men related to the South Tyrolean problem and generally to the policy of the Western Allies and the Russians towards Austria. It was the general tone of the conversation that the Austrians are disappointed because of the promises concerning the South Tyrol. The Austrian Government did not make agreements with the Russians on economic matters, especially on oil questions and others, in order to satisfy the Western Allies. The Austrian Government did not rush anything because it received promises from the West that help would come if they were patient. Now, in some circles there is some question as to whether it would not have been better to make one-sided agreements with the Russians.

Zsolt Aradi